

# Bird Information, Research and Data Highlights

January, February, March 2022



From left to right: Winter Bird Banding Day. Sandy leads a bird walk at the Hill Forest in February. Laura leads a bird walk at the Hill Forest in January.



From left to right: A Tufted Titmouse first captured by us as a young hatch-year bird 11 years ago! A beautiful Song Sparrow spends the winter here at Warner Parks. It was a good year for kinglets —a Golden-crowned Kinglet and Ruby-crowned Kinglet



From left to right: Sandy, Racheal Payton, Kathy Shaw, Tahira Mohyuddin all masked up. TSU intern Zhaierra Love. Racheal Payton begins her training for a federal banding permit. Data entry extraordinaries— Tahira and Kim Bailey.

***Celebrating our 40 year legacy of avian research***



# Bird Information, Research and Data (B.I.R.D.) Quarterly Report

January, February, March 2022

*Celebrating the WPNC Bird Banding Station 40 year legacy of avian research*

## BIRD Program

- Dedicated and amazing team of volunteers donated 649 hours to the BIRD Program, engaging 156 park visitors
- Led 2 Hill Forest bird walks. A highlight was a great view of a wintering Fox Sparrow!
- We welcomed several new volunteers to help keep our bird feeder stations at the nature center filled and clean.
- Volunteer extraordinaire Nancy Cole is leading a team of volunteers to complete our 40 year bird banding data project.
- Helped host 5 Tennessee State University interns for their spring semester. Emmanuel Wallace helped with a Lights Out Nashville campaign ([www.birdsafenashville.org](http://www.birdsafenashville.org)). Azia Tanks searched for radio-tagged Hermit Thrushes in Warner Parks. Her results will be published in the FOWP newsletter in May.
- Prepared bands, gear, and field sheets for the upcoming Eastern Bluebird, hummingbird migration, and Purple Martin research projects.
- Project Feederwatch continues through April. Thank you to naturalist Melissa Donahue and the many volunteers who make this happen.
- The spectacular Purple Martin migration roost will no longer be at the Nashville Symphony. BIRD advising the Symphony and Mayor's office on how best to have the birds move to a new location with out harming or harassing the birds during this critical life history phase.
- BIRD is a founding member of Bird Safe Nashville, a coalition of citizens and organizations who envision a city where both migratory and resident birds can thrive. The goal is to have a website, pledge, and Lights Out proclamation by May 2022.
- BIRD is coordinating a multiple agency/partner application process to the US Fish and Wildlife Service to have Nashville designated as an Urban Bird Treaty city. The goal is to work with multiple stakeholders and partners to submit a formal application by the end of the calendar year.
- Hosted a Zoom call with nature center staff and Finca Canteros to learn about each others programs and potential for future collaboration. Finca Canteros is where one of our radio-tagged Hermit Thrushes was detected in Costa Rica during fall migration.
- BIRD led two FYI Naturalist presentations one on Motus and one on bluebirds.
- Graham Gerdeman led a two part FYI Naturalist Workshop on Identifying winter sparrows and other grassland birds.
- BIRD presented to the Williamson County Master Gardeners about Eastern Bluebirds.
- Rachael Payton, an avian specialist at the Nashville Zoo, began her banding training with us. Her goal is revitalize the bluebird nest box project and relaunch the banding station at the zoo.

## BIRD Research Projects

- **Winter Bird Banding:** Delayed the start of winter banding by a couple of weeks because of high Covid number but we were able to have 8 banding sessions from 20 January—01 March. We took extra cleaning precautions due to avian flu detections in the US, no cases have been confirmed in Tennessee. Despite not advertising we engaged with 106 park visitors during the banding sessions. We captured 215 birds (110 new, 102 recaptures). The highlight was a Tufted Titmouse that we banded as a young hatch year bird 11 years ago!
- Motus:** All three of the Hermit Thrushes we radio-tagged during our Fall 2021 season remained here in Warner Parks for the winter.
- The first Hermit Thrush, captured on 26 October 2021 was detected more frequently by our new Motus receiver station at the Harpeth Hills Golf Course and was last detected on 06 March 2022, remaining in Warner Parks area for 132 days
  - The other two Hermit Thrushes are still here in Warner Parks. One thrush has been detected every day by the WPNC receiver station is remaining close to the banding station area. In fact, we recaptured this bird on 01 February having gained weight and looking good with the radio-tag. The other Hermit Thrush seems to be further up Long Hollow and occasionally detected by both the WPNC and the Harpeth Hills Golf Course receiver stations. How long will they remain here?

**The BIRD Program is funded by Friends of Warner Parks in partnership with Warner Park Nature Center and Nashville Metro Parks & Recreation**